



# *THE* Macdonald Farm Journal

VOLUME 13 No. 5

JANUARY 1953

F A R M . S C H O O L . H O M E







## YESTERDAYS IN AGRICULTURE

### FROM HERDS OF BUFFALO TO OCEANS OF WHEAT

In providing the necessities of life to the Indians, the buffalo was without rival. The spacious prairie region provided a grazing paradise for such large herds that their numbers, at times, blackened the plain.

The acquisition of the Hudson's Bay Companies' territories by the Dominion and the Homestead Act of 1870, the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1885, the introduction of Red Fife wheat, and the development of farming methods suitable for the prairie region, are mileposts in the settlement of the Canadian West.

The hunting grounds of the Indian have been transformed into a highly mechanized agricultural region that ranks as one of the great grain-growing areas of the world.

### IMPERIAL OIL CONTRIBUTES TO WESTERN GROWTH

In 1883, Imperial Oil established the first western bulk plant at Winnipeg. As settlement progressed, supply depots mushroomed alongside newly laid railroad lines.

Increasing mechanization and the rapid expansion of western agriculture during and following World War I marked the beginning of a period of western exploration and expansion in the oil industry. Wheat growing is now almost completely mechanized and the time required to produce a bushel of wheat has been reduced by more than one half.

Today, Western Canada has a surplus of oil. These developments provide a new source of strength and security for the Canadian economy.



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## Our Stake in the Future

January is a month when most people look into the future. Experts in every line of activity make pronouncements concerning what's ahead for '53. Things are either going to be tougher, just the same, or better, according to how each expert weighs the facts or lets his feelings get the better of him. Farm organizations are no better than any other in this respect; they too have their experts who interpret the trends for the new year.

These pronouncements are all very well when made by experts, but we, not being of that august body feel entirely inadequate to peer into the future, however dimly. There are, we feel, a few observations we can profitably make concerning the world food situation, however, and its possible effect upon this Canada of ours.

Seven years after the end of World War II the per capita food consumption is still below pre-war in some areas. Total world food consumption in 1951-52 was about the same as in 1950-51 and this in the face of a rising world population.

Looking at specific world areas we find that while the recovery of agriculture in western Europe continued there was still no decrease in that area's need for dollar imports, while trade between eastern and western Europe continued to be much less than before the war. In the Far East where the rapid increase in population has turned the area from a net exporter into a net importer of food, particularly grain, rice production was again below pre-war levels although the production of other grains was higher.

Many of these countries are making great efforts to expand production facilities by increasing irrigation, bringing more land into cultivation and more intensively farming the areas already under cultivation. Many of these projects require the expenditure of large sums of money and owing to reduced export earnings over the past year this movement is in danger of slowing down.

The people of the surplus food producing areas, the North American continent, New Zealand, Australia and the Argentine are eating as well as ever and there is every likelihood that they will continue to do so.

This then is the situation in 1951-52, and except for western Europe where crop production and livestock numbers are expected to top last years levels the situation is not too hopeful. The rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. An intolerable situation which cries aloud for remedial action.

We must always remember that the majority of Asians go to bed hungry every night, that they think of the western nations in term of colonial exploiters, that they consider any change will be a change for the better. This makes our task doubly difficult for only by right dealing and open handed action can we prove to them the sincerity of our purpose.

Two agencies have been set up which in large measure overcome the fears of the Asian nations that the West is only out to help itself at their expense. These are the Columbo Plan and Point Four. It is through these agencies that the Asian and Western nations can meet as equals to fulfill a common purpose—that of rehabilitating Asian nations through a policy of self help.

To carry out our share of the Columbo Plan, Canada last year set aside twenty-five million dollars while for armaments we spent hundreds of millions of dollars. It may well be that in this year 1953 we shall have to decide once and for all whether this division is fair. Is the vast continent of Asia of so little importance to us? Upon our answer may well depend the future security and prosperity of the free world.

## Our Cover Picture

This is the Rawdon Ski Bowl, photographed last winter by Walter Whitehead.

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Subscription rate \$1.00 for 3 years. Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.



# Has Butter a Future?

"Yes", says Mrs. H. E. Vautelet, vice-president of the National Canadian Association of Consumers, "if it doesn't try to stifle the competition of substitutes."

THE future of butter has become a form of political bribery to the rural voters of Quebec. It has even become a matter of religious concern with church synods condemning the latest law against margarine. It is creating issues which touch upon questions far more vital than the dairy industry's survival; issues that touch upon the democratic liberties of rural and urban workers alike. The question of where the government's right to limit public freedom starts and ends. It has lifted our simple pound of churned cream far above its natural level. Our thinking on the subject touches more important questions for our future than our need or lack of need for a butter substitute.

The question of whether butter has a future would normally answer itself for food never goes out of fashion. Every basic food we knew thousands of years ago is still being eaten today. There never has been enough food in the world to let mankind be choosy and that is why food substitutes could be important and why it could be a crime against tomorrow's hunger to prevent their invention or manufacture today.

The greatest threat to butter is not the danger of its replacement by a rival product but rather the sickness of the dairy industry itself, a sickness for which consumers are, to a great degree, responsible. It lies in the efforts to escape competition, in the increasingly dangerous effect on human psychology of the present repressive methods used to outlaw this competition.

How strong and explosive the effect of forbidding can be on human nature is shown by what prohibition did to the United States. A clear majority of the nation voted to outlaw liquor, yet inside of two years obtaining liquor by hook or by crook became the major occupation of the nation. This fantastic occupation went down sharply the moment liquor was legal again.

These factors could reduce butter sales to the point where, for a time, it would no longer pay to produce it. If this happens it will happen first in Quebec, since only here has the dairy industry been able to achieve the form



of possible self-destruction that is always present in attempts to buy security for one class at the cost of any portion of the liberties of all classes.

I think, in all fairness, that the dairy farmer is not entirely responsible for the dangerous amount of protection he is now receiving. It has been wished on him in a measure that is in all probability beginning to worry him, and which he pays for, like other citizens with one more slice of his personal liberties. This protection also has a further price for it makes margarine seem far more desirable than any sales talk by its producers could manage to achieve. The best way to sell a book is to ban it; the same is true with any product. I doubt if many in Quebec really need butter substitutes now, but the results of banning will inevitably be, as with prohibition, a rising interest in the forbidden product; increased evasions of a law that sacrifices the will of the majority to the political voting weight of a minority and a growing hostility against the industry that has provoked this interference with human rights and imposed limitations on consumer liberties that do not exist in other provinces.

## Creating A Mood

This is a dangerous mood to create. Unhappily it is already visible, and people who normally never touch margarine are now ready to eat it rather than be repressed. Bootlegging is stronger than law when it flourishes by the will of the people and the law it violates *does not*. One does not protect anything lastingly by arousing resentment against it. The consequences of flying in the face of human nature, however, may not hit our dairy industry immediately, for to date butter production in Canada falls far short of meeting our needs, and margarine will at first only fill the gap. This, of course, is one more irritant for the consumer, who sees interference with his liberties being used to hold a monopoly at a moment when there is not enough butter to meet Canadian needs, and when money that could go to Canadians producing margarine in Canada is being sent into outside pockets without

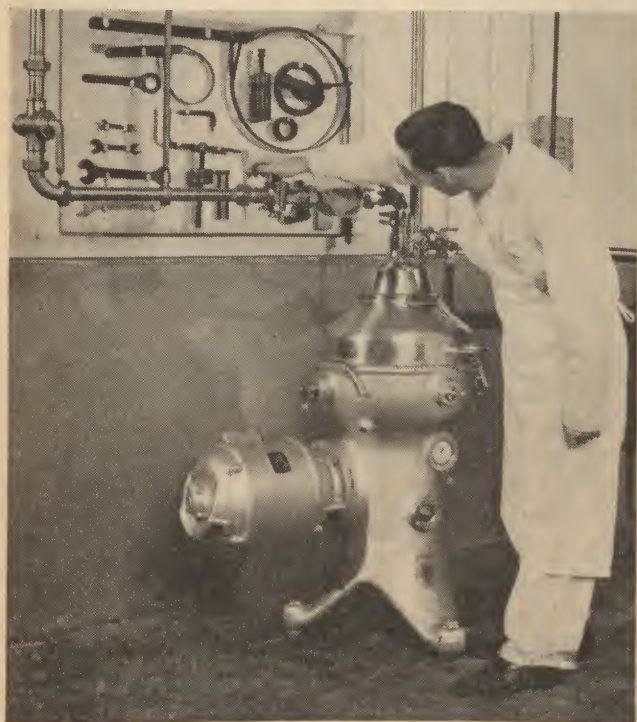


benefit to dairy interests whose product is already sold out.

This year consumption of margarine may just bridge the difference between butter consumption and production. In Quebec early bootlegging hazards may make it only minor competition for a time, but if human nature runs true to form, resentment-demands will soon begin to encroach on butter's markets. By the time the present law is repealed, and it is a law impossible for successive governments to maintain this may have reduced demand for butter to a point that will damage, not only dairy interests, but all interests.

Any farmer knows that livestock is needed to nourish the soil that feeds us. When dairy herds are sold farms are condemned to a slow death. Anything that drives Quebec's eating habits away from butter and towards margarine, as present legislation does, may make dairy herds temporary liabilities, even though the dairy industry has other eggs in its basket apart from butter. This could end by making us all less well nourished. I am afraid this is the future we may have to look forward to unless the rural vote uses its power over government to accept the risks of competition, rather than take the far bigger risks of outlawing competition.

This rural vote still weighs far more heavily than urban votes in government's eyes. But it may not continue to do so if employed unwisely. Today rural electors hold a far greater balance of power than either their numbers or their tax share in the upkeep of Canada might warrant. Forty thousand city electors send one representative to the legislature while the same number of rural voters



A modern cream separator at work in a co-op dairy is a far cry from the old fashioned hand operated machines.

## Do you need

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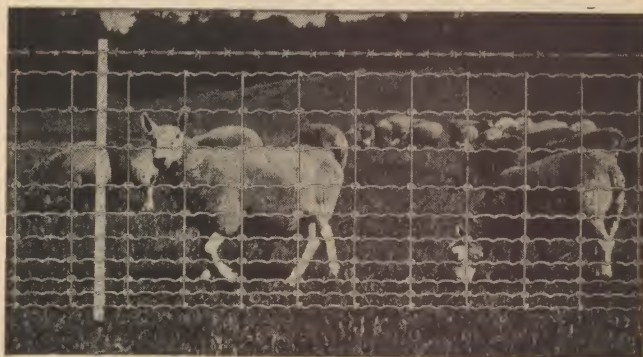
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elect three or four and possess, therefore, much more political influence. The vital importance of the man who feeds us has caused urban electors to accept without much protest this heavy unbalance in voting weight. How long they will continue to do so if this power is used to exploit them and to use the government is uncertain. There are signs that a desire for a new redistribution of voting power is arising out of this conflict on margarine. Yet if we want to keep our rural population on the land, in the face of industry's higher wages and shorter work hours, it is probably better for us that rural voters should retain the larger political voice irrespective of population percentages. The urban majority should not, however, be tried too far. Where tomorrow's voting power is concerned the battle of butter may cost rural interests far more in the long run than any benefit which it now brings.

Another threat to butter is the consequences that occur to industries who run away from instead of facing competition. I know that our farm population feels that it has been exploited many times in the price of what it buys, by tariffs and other forms of protection, but these practices have weighed as heavily on urban consumers as on rural ones and they have never managed to totally ban any one product. They merely postpone for any industry the day when competition must be faced and conquered.

Protection enfeebles instead of strengthens, and butter will have a future only to the extent it can meet and exist with competition. That it can do so if it *must*, is proved by France, Belgium and Sweden where butter consumption is increasing despite free competition from margarine.

### Milk or Cokes?

Consumers have the right to ask that their food be no more regimented than their clothes and building materials. They have the right to dread a principle by which we could outlaw steel because lumber is a major Quebec industry, or cotton because we produce only wool, or oranges because our product is apples; a principle that sets protection of one group above the rights of all groups. If we accept such a principle in one case, should we not apply it in others? Yet I wonder what the average farm dwelling would look like if we banned all substitutes for home-grown products? Plastics and citrus fruit? Aluminum and cotton? In one step we would move back a century and the only market for butter would be our neighboring village.

These are consumers rights, but consumers also have responsibilities. Among them that of seeing that butter gets a square deal in meeting competition. Whether they know it or not, they are vitally interested in finding a solution for the present sickness of the dairy industry. This sickness is caused less by competition from rival products than by today's competition for manpower be-



The dairy cow is as important to our economy now as she ever was in the past.

tween the city and the soil. Consumers have played their part in weighting this competition against rural producers, whose work-hours cannot be fitted to labor contracts or industrial hours, but must suit the seasons. We consumers need to learn the dangerous power we hold in our hands; the power to decide by our tastes in spending what it pays Canada most to produce. Milk or Cokes? Radios or meat? Motor-cars or butter? Pulp for comic papers or lumber for houses? Today our farms are short of labor because our spending has made it more rewarding for men to produce gadgets than food.

Informed consumers have a growing awareness of this serious problem, and one of the duties of my consumer organization is to try and make such informed consumers far more numerous and to make them aware of how our enormous spending on factory goods has helped to drain men from the farm.

Today Canadians are drinking 46 percent more coffee than in 1939. They are spending 7 cents for 6 ounces of pop more readily than 20 cents for 40 ounces for milk. Two years ago they bought 60 percent more new cars in one year than the year before, and in that year drank 14 gallons of beer per person and spent 1 billion dollars on tobacco and liquor alone. If the manpower used to produce these things had remained on the land food would be cheaper today and butter would not need to fear competition.

### Consumers Are Rural As Well As Urban

All the items listed above, and others like them, help drain manpower from the farm, and these items are being bought by rural as well as urban families. The effects of this large spending swing of ours to manufactured luxuries cannot be charged only to city consumers as is being done in the present margarine situation. To outlaw margarine will not solve the dairy producers employment problem. It cannot be solved by building a wall between Quebeckers and all the products that dare to compete with dairy products.

The price of a free economy is competition. The Canadian Association of Consumers stressed this point when it fought for the banning of price maintenance last year, a sales method that outlawed competition. Agriculture backed us then and you can't have one principle for those who sell to you and another when you sell to them.



### You Can't Halt New Inventions

Our standard of living exists only because industry developed initiative, strength and new methods of production in an age of competition. If butter refuses to meet competition but runs to the government for aid then it may well have no future in Quebec, but if it tells the government that it requires no protection that must be bought at the expense of all the citizens, that it will face and solve its own problems, then, I think, dairy farmers will have the right to call on consumers to face the consequences to themselves as well as to others of what their buying habits are doing to the dairy business and to ask their help and concern in the fight to save the dairy business.

In this fight consumer associations like CAC will help with all their power, for we feel that while the people of Canada have the right of free access to all wholesome foods, we also feel that new products should be prevented from masquerading as the article they imitate, that they should be regulated as strictly as the older well-known product and that they should be different enough in appearance to be unable to trade on the prestige of the product they resemble.

Trade marks give manufactured goods this protection. Trade marks belong in equal measure to dairy products, and consumers should sacrifice their emotional desires for something just like butter to make sure they get their legitimate protection.

There is no hope of consumers doing this, however, as long as butter's evasion of competition at their expense continues to antagonize them. Human beings do not take kindly to repression, and the future of butter rests, in Quebec at least, on the speed with which this fact is realized.

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**This is the second of three articles on the question "Has Butter A Future?" Both have expressed different points of view on a subject that is headline news today. The third will suggest possible alternate uses for milk. What do our readers think? We invite your comments. Write to the Farm Editor, Box 260, Macdonald College.**

## Junior Ayrshire Sire at Macdonald



Lindwood Improver's Brownie Boy -363394- Junior and Reserve Grand Champion at the 1952 Royal Winter Fair has more than type to justify his new position. He is by Hobsland Improver a Scottish bred son of Rottenrow Remarkable. Hobsland Improver is herd sire in Col. Oland's herd, Halifax, N.S.; and while none of his daughters are old enough to have completed records, they appear quite promising. Brownie Boy is out of an imported cow Howie's Brownie 10th. His dam and two granddams all have records over 11,000 lbs. as heifers with tests ranging between 4.15% and 4.34%.

## Current Trends in World Meat Consumption

The meat supply of most countries in 1951 showed a slight increase over 1950 and in total it was about 4 per cent above that of the period 1934-38. Despite the increase in supplies, the overall per capita consumption in 1951 was little different from that of 1950, but considerably less than in prewar years in most countries. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, increased population in all countries, decreased export surpluses in traditional exporting countries and decreased production in many European countries have been the major factors in retarding the per capita consumption of meat. With population continuing to increase and no immediate prospects of significant increases in meat supplies, little improvement can be expected soon in per capita meat consumption in most countries of the world.

Among the heavy meat-eating countries are Uruguay with a per capita consumption estimated in 1951 at 235 lbs.; New Zealand with 228 lbs.; Argentina with 225 lbs., and Australia with 219 lbs. The United States consumed an estimated 138 lbs. per person in 1951 and Canada 129 lbs. In the United Kingdom—where meat is still rationed—the consumption fell from the 1950 figure of 112 lbs. to only 86 lbs. per person in 1951. Other countries with low meat consumption figures are Belgium, France, West Germany, and South Africa.



## February is a good month to . . .

See that all your livestock has plenty of not-too-cold water to drink. Give animals the feed they need to keep them thrifty. Read a good book. Order baby chicks from a reliable hatchery. Ward off colds by eating plenty of green and yellow vegetables and tomatoes. Read the labels before you buy. Keep the farm and home accounts up-to-date.

## The Consumer's Dairy Dollar

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics' new Consumer Price Index reveals that of every dollar spent by the average Canadian family on food, 18.25 per cent goes to purchase those dairy products included in the index, fluid milk, butter, cheese and evaporated milk. About 59 cents of the "dairy dollar" is spent on whole milk, 29 cents on butter, 8 cents on cheese and 4 cents on evaporated milk. The Bureau estimates that the average Canadian family pays out 32 cents of every dollar of total expenditure to meet food budget requirements.

## Information Please! ★ ★ ★

This section should make interesting reading, for it is given over to the problems of our readers. Problems sent in by Farm Forum and other groups are dealt with here.

WITH the lambing season not too far away, it's time we thought about the ration of the pregnant ewes. A study recently carried out to determine the effects of varying the amount of protein in the diet showed some interesting results which we thought well worth while placing before all farmers who keep a few sheep.

### Protein in the Ewe's Ration

Recent studies at the Experimental Station, Lethbridge, Alberta, have shown that the amount of protein in the ration of mature ewes had a marked effect on lamb production. Additions of three and six per cent protein to a basal ration containing seven per cent protein increased the average birth weights of the lambs over one pound and the weaning weights over six pounds.

These studies were conducted during 1949 and 1950 to determine the effect of various levels of protein on lamb production. Three uniform groups of range ewes (27 head per group) were fed rations containing 7, 10, and 13 per cent protein, beginning in June, 1949. The ewes were bred by New Zealand Corriedale rams to commence lambing the first week in April, 1950.

A study of the results shows that increasing the protein content of the ration from 7 to 10 per cent produced an increase of more than one pound in the average birth weights of all lambs. An increase to 13 per cent protein gave no further increase in birth weights of the lambs. When considered on the basis of the total weight of lamb per ewe the results were practically the same. The lambs in the two groups receiving the higher levels of protein also maintained their advantage in weight over those in the low protein group right up until weaning. These lambs were more vigorous at birth, and, because the ewes had a better milk supply, the lambs had a lower mortality rate. The number of lambs weaned also in-



Well-bred, well-fed lambs represent a source of profit to the Canadian farmer.

creased considerably in relation the protein content of the ration.

On the basis of these results it appears that during pregnancy and lactation 10 per cent protein in the ration is adequate for mature ewes. Seven per cent protein is too low to produce a satisfactory lamb crop while 13 per cent does not seem to give a sufficient increase over 10 per cent to warrant feeding at that level. Ewes grazing on winter range, which would provide approximately 5 to 7 per cent protein, should be supplemented at least during the last 6 to 8 weeks of pregnancy with about one-half pound of a high protein concentrate such as linseed oil cake or commercial range pellets.

## How Far Does It Stretch?

The average Canadian worker can purchase substantially more milk and butter for each hour's earnings today than he could in 1939. In the case of milk he can now buy over six quarts as against only 3.85 quarts. In the case of butter, over two pounds can be bought compared with less than 1½ pounds. This has been made possible in large measure by increased production, processing and distribution efficiency within the industry, making it possible for the consumer to obtain 60 per cent more milk and 33 per cent more butter for his money than he could pre-war. Dairy products contribute one-third of all nutrients in the Canadian diet.





Whose heart has not warmed to the anxious whine of a dog worried for his boss? Who has not smiled at old Shep's welcoming bark, his wiggling body, his all-over happiness?

Always an eager companion on a lark or a faithful follower in the lonely field, a dog is part of growing up on the farm. And whether for guarding the place or bringing in the cows, training makes the best dog better. The kind of dog you are training makes a lot of difference.

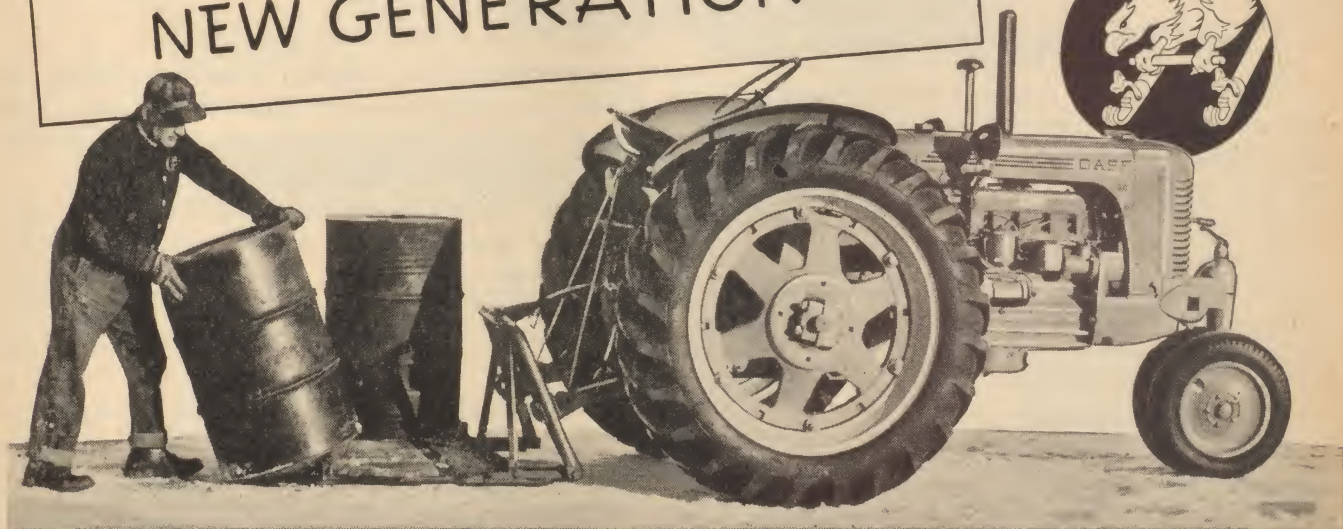
Training is the big thing for tomorrow's farm-

ers, too. But it still makes a lot of difference what kind of equipment they use in putting that training to work.

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# The Shepherd's Calendar

by W. H. Hough and S. B. Williams

## February

Start to feed grain to the pregnant ewes 6 weeks before the lambing period begins. Feed them a grain ration of 2 parts crushed oats to 1 part of bran at the rate of  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound of the mixture per head per day. Gradually increase the daily grain ration to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pounds each by lambing time. If top quality legume hay is fed, the rate of grain feeding may be greatly reduced.

Gradually discontinue the feeding of roots or silage to the bred ewes if lambs are expected in March.

Watch for crowding and jamming by the ewes at the doors or gates and at the feed troughs. When ewes are heavy in lamb injury from crowding can result in death to the unborn lamb.

Watch for pregnancy disease in the ewes. The symptoms are, unthriftiness, sluggishness, unsteadiness of gait and later paralysis. The ewe often makes a trotting motion when down on her side. Adequate exercise and a balanced ration will help to prevent the disease. Call a veterinarian if the disease appears.

Prepare the lambing pens for use. Select a dry warm place which is free from draughts for the pens. Bed the pens with clean straw. Check and repair hurdles and gates in the lambing pens. Check the heat lamps and electrical cords. Replace or repair frayed or worn wires. Have sufficient heat lamps on hand if the weather is likely to be cold.



Don't chase the ewes through doors and gates.

**Order medical supplies for lambing:** Tincture of Iodine — to disinfect navels of new born lambs. Mineral or Castor Oil — to be used as a lubricant and a laxative. Creolin — to disinfect pens.

## Cow Population Increases

The first significant upward trend in Canadian dairy cow population in seven years was revealed by a Dominion Bureau of Statistics survey. The report shows that on June 1st, 1952, milk cows and heifers increased by 3.7 per cent over a year ago.

The increase in milk cows on farms amounting to 64,000 head, reflects the embargo on Canadian cattle shipments to the U.S. imposed following the outbreak of foot and mouth disease, but, nevertheless, exceeds the total number of milk cows exported in the year prior to the ban, by some 12,000 head.

From the standpoint of future milk output, dairy officials note the sharp increase of 73,000, or 8.6 per cent, in heifers kept for milk purposes, as promising relief from the declining milk production which has been in evidence since 1945.

The Provinces of Quebec and Prince Edward Island show the biggest heifer increase with gains of 20.9 per cent and 18.2 per cent respectively. Ontario showed an increase of 8.6 per cent. Saskatchewan is the only Pro-

vince showing a decline during the year.

In contrast to the improved Canadian outlook, the United States Department of Agriculture reports a continuation of the decline in milk cow numbers and milk production in that country.

Increased production, loss of export markets for dairy cattle and greatly restricted outlets for cheese and evaporated milk, together with butter and cheese imports during the past 12 months, have resulted in abnormally high stocks of all dairy products for this season of the year.

## What Does It Buy?

Canadians consume great quantities of dairy products. In 1951, for example, domestic consumption amounted to 1.9 billion quarts of fluid milk, 664 million pints of cream (as milk), 315 million pounds of butter, 65.5 million pounds of cheese, 25.5 million gallons of ice cream, 281 million pounds of concentrated whole milk products and 89.5 million pounds of concentrated milk by-products.





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# Will A Tariff Help Us?

by Colin Muirhead

**Will a tariff help agriculture? This article outlines some of the problems we must face in answering this question.**

centage of our milk in the past is no reason to believe that this scheme of things will never change.

During the early part of this century cheese was the main factor in eastern Canadian agriculture. Later butter took over as the greatest user of milk, and later still with the advent of larger towns and cities more and more milk went into the fluid trade for human consumption.

The growth of cities and towns has pushed back the boundaries of the milkshed areas until today in the United States, for instance, milk rolls into New York City from hundreds of miles away. This outward movement of the milkshed pushed the butter and cheese areas still farther back for farmers found that selling whole milk for human consumption a better paying proposition than supplying milk for butter and cheese manufacture.

## In Canada Too

In Canada this movement has only just begun. We have embarked upon an era of industrial expansion which is going to mean more and bigger cities and towns which will demand increasing quantities of milk for human consumption. This means that the farmers within the present boundaries of the milkshed will increase their carrying capacity and that the boundaries of the milkshed itself will be pushed back again. What does this mean to the farmer? It means that more and more of them are going to be brought into the high priced fluid trade to the exclusion of butter and cheese.

In addition it's going to mean the setting up of beef enterprises outside the milkshed areas, yet close enough so that they can supply the growing cities at minimum cost. Here is another enterprise that is more profitable than either butter or cheese and yet equally good to the land.

Beef cattle, like the dairy cow, supply the needed natural manures. They use large quantities of high protein grass silage and hay, another good farming practice for it means the nitrogen-fixing legumes and the other grasses which hold the soil in place, conserve moisture and build up the humus content will be used in the rotation. In addition beef farming fits into the present trend toward bigger farms and fewer farmers for it lends itself to the use of such labor saving devices as the pole barn and loose housing. Beef cattle do not need to be protected from the weather to anything like the extent that dairy cows do, nor do they have to be milked daily for they can be allowed to go dry once the calf has been weaned.

These changes don't mean that we should go out of



A pleasant place to live, but harsh necessity is driving men away to the city where increasing industrialization is creating more jobs.

IT'S about time we faced up to this question of protection. Do we want to increase or decrease trade between nations? Pick up any daily or weekly paper and see how many individuals and groups are crying for protection in one form or another. And what do they want protection against? Cheap United States imports, cheap Cuban imports, cheap South Sea Island imports, cheap imports from anywhere.

The protectionists paint a grim picture. They tell us that our tobacco industry is going to be ruined, our sugar beet industry is going to be ruined, our dairy cow is becoming a museum piece. Our land is going to be laid waste and returned to the primeval forest from which our ancestors wrested it. And the reason behind all this? It is due, they tell us, to our high standard of living. We in Canada can't hope to compete, the protectionists say, with countries where a 25 cent per day wage level prevails, but give us a tariff and we'll produce all Canada needs.

Not so many years ago the great argument raging across eastern Canada had to do with New Zealand butter. The influx of foreign butter was considered a threat to our stability. Even in those days, much as we hate to admit it, we were unable to supply our domestic needs on a year round basis. Butter may possibly have been a war casualty, but before that it was most certainly a price casualty. That is the important point. Are we to conclude from all this then that agriculture is facing ruin?

To the writer all this talk of ruin and museum pieces is nonsense. Our agriculture is not ruined, it is not going to be ruined in the future nor is any part of it in danger of becoming a "Museum piece." Nothing stands still in this life and agriculture is no exception to the rule. Just because butter and cheese have absorbed a large per-





Outside the milkshed area beef cattle can compete with any other form of farming.

butter and cheese manufacture entirely; there's still a big demand for these commodities. What they do mean is that we should aim for a better balance in agriculture. More milk for human consumption, less for butter and cheese, more beef raising, fewer dairy cows for the butter and cheese farmer.

There is no sign here of a wasteland, ruination or "museum pieces," but a picture of growth and increasing prosperity along new paths. Agriculture must either grow or decay, it cannot stay in a halfway house. If we insist upon following the old ways then agriculture is in for a bad time. If, however, we are willing to recognize that change is the normal state of affairs then agriculture will continue to expand and provide a better living.

We have discussed agriculture in Canada and the changes that already are beginning to take place, changes that will put Canadian agriculture on a sound and more permanent footing. Now let's take a look at the tariff and see what the effects would be.

#### Slow Trade and We Slow Prosperity

If nations find their normal trade channels blocked, they have two alternatives. They can either subsidize their exports, in which case they will be able to jump over the tariff barriers erected to keep their goods out, or they can raise tariff barriers themselves against the offending country. This latter move would leave Canada three alternatives. She could either subsidize her exports, try to sell them in other export markets or at home.

We've got examples of each of these methods. Since the outbreak of foot and mouth disease the Canadian government subsidized beef exports in order to move them off the Canadian market and place them in the United Kingdom. In the second instance, Canada has been used to dealing in "traditional" markets, this has meant the shaping of a particular product to fit one market, for instance, the Annapolis Valley Apple Growers and the United Kingdom. When this market was closed to them they found they had none other, for their apple varieties were geared to suit United Kingdom tastes. Finally we can increase our sales on the home market, and this isn't too easy either as the cheese producers have found out. It does, however, offer hope for we have a growing population which is becoming increasingly urban.

We see the dangers that tariffs and restrictions of one

sort or another can do even when applied on a very temporary basis as, for instance, the United States embargo on livestock imports or the longer but still temporary United Kingdom dollar restrictions. It does not require much imagination to see what might happen if we used tariffs or other forms of restrictions on a permanent basis.

Canada is particularly vulnerable to restrictions on international trade because of her large export business. The indiscriminate use of tariffs, embargos and quota restrictions to protect agriculture is like pulling the bed clothes over our heads when the house is on fire. It may shut out the awful truth but it won't help in stamping out the fire! It merely increases our danger of being burned.

## Legume Silage for Dairy Cattle

Over the past few years legume silage has rapidly gained in popularity as a feed for dairy cattle. Indeed, some dairymen have developed the practice of curing all the legume-grass forage as silage for the winter supply of roughage. Following such a plan, cows are fed silage at a rate of approximately six pounds per hundred pounds of live weight daily. A simple low protein meal allowance is fed in conjunction with legume silage at a rate of two to four pounds per 10 pounds of milk produced.

This practice has advantages in that curing legume roughage as silage instead of hay ensures a better conservation of nutrients under adverse weather conditions. It also fits in with the current trend toward grassland farming and permits of a better distribution of labour in the rush harvest season.

Whether the feeding of silage as the sole roughage is superior to the more or less standard recommendation of feeding one pound of good hay and three pounds of silage per hundred pounds of live weight daily, has not been proved. The handicap to the standard plan is to provide a constant high quality in the hay.

Experiments at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Ont., have shown that wilted legume silage harvested under adverse weather conditions was equal to good quality hay when fed either as the sole roughage or with hay in the ratio of three pounds of silage to one pound of hay.

At the Experimental Station, Lennoxville, Quebec, when legume silage provided the full roughage complement, it was equal to corn silage and hay for milk production. The comparison was conducted through five winter seasons.

When legume silage is first introduced in the dairy ration, it does not appear to be as palatable as corn silage. Unless cows are accustomed to it, they may at first refuse legume silage or nibble at it gingerly. However, providing the ration contains no spoiled material, their appetite for this silage will gradually increase to a high rate of intake.



# For the Ladies



## Out With That Stain!

by Marjorie Jenkins

Lady MacBeth was driven to naughty words by a stain. We are often driven to utter exasperation. One spot, and the beauty of any garment is ruined. But our case is not as hopeless as hers. Most stains can be removed at home quite successfully.

The common stains fall in four groups: fats and oils, tannins, dyes and proteins. Different methods are used for each group.

On fabrics that are washable, fats offer no serious problem. Careful laundering is usually sufficient. On fabrics that are dry-cleanable only, absorbents or solvents are used. Absorbents, which include starch, Fuller's earth, cornmeal, salt and talcum powder, act as blotters and are more effective on fresh stains than on old. The fabric is laid, right side down, over a flat surface. A layer of the powder is patted gently into the spot. As the fat is absorbed, it is brushed off and fresh powder applied. Solid fats and tallow must be melted before they can be absorbed. Place blotting paper or soft old white cotton rags over and under the stain and press with a warm iron. Change the powder and blotter often.

Fuller's earth is effective on the shoulders of silk or rayon dresses which collect oils from the skin. The first application is allowed to remain for half an hour, the second overnight. It is wise to do this often to prevent dust or dirt collecting on the oil.

In stain removal, always use the simplest method first. If absorbents are not sufficient, solvents will do the work, but they are more troublesome. Some solvents such as gasoline, naphtha and others catch fire easily and will explode. Rubbing a garment which is saturated in gasoline can cause it to burst into flames. Benzene, turpentine, alcohol and acetone are inflammable also, but fairly safe in

the small amount used for spot removal. Carbon tetrachloride is not flammable, nor will it damage delicate fabrics. The fumes, however, are toxic. It should be used near an open window with a slight draft blowing out. As it is volatile, it should be kept in a well-stoppered bottle to prevent evaporation. Many commercial spot removers contain large proportions of carbon tetrachloride which can be purchased at any drug store in the pure form at less expense.

Because of the effect of surface tension, solvent chases grease ahead of it as a policeman chases a thief. If it is dropped in the center of the stain, the fat spreads out and out in a widening circle, so the spotter, like a good policeman, spreads a cordon. A piece of cotton wadding is dipped in the solvent and a ring is drawn around the stain several inches from it. More solvent is applied, always in circles, moving inward to the center. Absorbent cloth, cotton wadding or blotting paper, placed under the stain, acts as a wick, drawing solvent and dissolved soil from the fabric; the cleaning fluid will evaporate, but the staining substance must be trapped. Change this wick frequently. When the first application has been made, blot with a clean cloth and blow on the stain to dry quickly. Do not breathe in the fumes. If the stain is still there, repeat. Remember, patience and perseverance are requisites for good spotting.

The formation of rings may cause difficulty in this method. Dressing in the fabric may be floated out. The solvent may be impure, or it may not have been evaporated quickly. The dissolved grease may not have been flushed out. Do not spot a garment which is dirty; send it to the cleaners. The small area cleaned by the solvent is obvious. Surface dust and dirt should be brushed off before starting. If rings have formed, remove by sponging with a cloth slightly moist with clean solvent; by rubbing lightly with the finger nail or a dull knife blade; or by steaming. If a steam iron is not available, cover a kettle spout with cheesecloth, hold the fabric close until it is moist but not wet, then shake out and press.

Many grease stains require added treatment because they contain other staining materials. Lipstick is a dye incorporated in a fat base. If the fat is removed before the color, the dye enters the fabric making a tenacious stain. Moisten white cotton sparingly with lard or other clean white fat, and brush lightly over the stain from the outside in, changing when the cotton becomes discolored. When all the red has been removed, sponge with carbon tetrachloride to remove the fat. Axle grease, cod liver oil, linseed oil, road oil, pitch and tar can be treated in the same way. Other stains such as cream, milk, salad dressing and cream soups contain water-soluble materials. Try a few drops of water on an inside seam or facing. If the fabric is not changed or damaged, sponge the spot first with cool clean water, then, when dry, with solvent.





## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec  
Department of Agriculture*

### The Federal-Provincial Outlook Conference

Indications are that there will be no major change in 1953 from the generally prosperous conditions which prevailed in Canada during 1952. This opinion was expressed by federal government agricultural leaders at the annual federal-provincial agricultural outlook conference held in Ottawa during the first week of December.

The conference was told that defense orders will continue as a significant factor in the economy. The domestic economy is geared to high production and may absorb even more resources than in 1952.

Comprehensive reports were presented by federal government leaders covering all phases of agriculture as well as rural-urban relationships. These excellent reports into which had gone a tremendous amount of work by men in widely scattered positions throughout the country, called forth very little discussion.

The Quebec delegation was made up of Dr. Gauthier, Rene Trepanier and Pierre LeBrecque. Mr. Trepanier praised the Quebec farmers for continuing the trend toward grassland farming. "More and more of our farmers are finding that grassland farming pays big dividends," he said. "Our agriculture will remain strong," Mr. Trepanier went on to say, "only insofar as we continue to look after our soil. Healthy soil means healthy animals," he concluded.

Mr. Marion, vice-president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, also spoke for the Quebec point of view. He said that all farmers should feel concerned about the inroads vegetable oils are making into the dairy business. "If the dairy cows goes," he said, "our soil will be ruined, for a healthy soil is only possible in a livestock type of farming. What we take off we put back," he said. Mr. Marion also commented on the downward trend shown by farm income and the fact that withdrawals in a great many rural credit unions exceeded deposits during the past nine months. While in urban credit unions the opposite was the case.

Mr. McMillan, president of the Dairy Farmers of Canada, said that the dairy industry faced a crisis if something constructive wasn't done to push back the threat of vegetable oils to the dairy industry. "Dairy products face the competition of substitutes all down the line," Mr. McMillan went on to say, "and unless we find some means whereby the dairy industry can be assured a measure of protection it is in danger of being wiped

out." He cited the example of the United States where he said, "in many States the dairy industry is fighting a losing battle for survival against the competition of these substitutes.

The British Columbia delegation suggested to Mr. Gardiner that the federal government set up a Royal Commission to "investigate all of the possibilities of the use of vegetable oils on the Canadian economy and to suggest a course of action." Mr. Gardiner rejected the request, saying that a Royal Commission "is made up of a group of men who sit for three years." He then went on to point out to the assembled delegates that "all the information we need we have now, it remains for us to use it as we see fit." He suggested that protection for the dairy industry will have to be sought and granted on a provincial basis. "We protected the dairy industry from the inroads of margarine on a federal basis as long as we had the power. It is now up to the provinces," Mr. Gardiner said, "to take what steps they see fit."

The support price on hogs came in for some criticism on the grounds that it would drive many farmers out of hog production altogether. The general opinion was that the 26¢ floor price should remain, otherwise we may increase instability by driving more people out now and then when the price went up they would all come back in and the cycle would start all over again.



The Quebec Delegation at the Dominion-Provincial Conference: George Gauthier, director, Information and Research; Rene Trepanier, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Pierre Labrecque, chief, Livestock Service.



## A First for Canada

The first world plowing match will be held in Canada next October, in conjunction with the Ontario Plowmen's Association annual International plowing match at Cobourg.

At least seven, and possibly ten, nations will send three-man teams, consisting of a horse plowman, a tractor plowman and a coach. It is hoped that Belgium, France and the United States will join the organization in time for the October match.

Canada's invitation as host country was extended by J. D. Thomas of Toronto, honorary president of Ontario Conservation Association and special delegate to the conference for the Ontario Plowmen's Association. He was accompanied by Roy Shaver, of Finch, Ont., a past president of O.P.A., who served as adviser and consultant on rules and plowing procedure.

More than 200 plowmen, representing Canada, Sweden, Finland, Norway, West Germany, Eire and Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), attended the conference, although only one delegate was allowed to speak for each country.

Mr. Thomas said the Canadian invitation was accepted over strong bids from Eire and West Germany. Following the decision on the match site, a tentative set of international rules was agreed to by the member countries. Although plowing procedure varies widely throughout Europe and North America, Mr. Thomas said "there was a great willingness on the part of the delegates to compromise to get this first world match underway".

It was decided that competitors will be required to plow both grassland and stubble, and to clarify ambiguities and differences in definitions, it is planned to prepare a glossary of plowing terms in the language of each competing country.

Following the match each country will give a demonstration of its kind of plowing, and some of the teams intend transporting their own plows across the Atlantic for the match.

Mr. Thomas said the conference was delighted at the Canadian invitation and the participation of Canadian plowmen in the B.P.A. match. "It was felt that in both cases Canada was giving leadership in world match plowing. Many of the delegates visualized the present plans developing into something even larger for already machinery firms, financial houses, and industrial concerns have expressed interest and offers of prizes have been made."

The conference agreed that future world matches shall be held in Eire in 1954, Sweden in 1955 and Great Britain in 1956.

## Plant Protection Officer Completes Advanced Studies

Roger Desmarteau, stationed with the Provincial Plant Protection Service at Farnham, has been awarded his Master of Science degree by the University of Michigan.

Mr. Desmarteau, whose technical knowledge and practical experience are now at the disposal of Quebec's fruit growers, undertook his advanced studies with the help of a bursary accorded him by the Department of Agriculture's Research Committee. A graduate of Oka in 1936, his first job with the Department was as a laboratory technician at the entomology station at St. Martin de Laval, but during this period he was allowed time off from his work to attend classes in Plant Pathology at Macdonald College, where he was registered for three sessions.

He was later appointed instructor in plant protection, specializing in the control of insects and diseases of vegetable crops. Promoted to the post of Director of the Orchard Protection Station at Frelighsburg, later moved to Dunham, he carried on investigations into the control of apple scab and other orchard diseases.

His technical knowledge and his years of practical experience in the field make him a valuable member of the staff of the Department of Agriculture, and fruit growers of this province are fortunate to have him to turn to for advice.

## Seed Potato Subsidies Continued

The provincial government's assistance in the purchase of quality seed potatoes will be continued again this year, says Deputy Minister of Agriculture Trepanier.

A subsidy of \$300 per carload of 600 seventy-five pound bags of Foundation or Foundation-A seed potatoes will be paid by the Department of Agriculture, provided the potatoes are from stocks grown in Quebec. The policy has been in effect since the 15th of November, and the grant will be paid only on account of purchases made through the Co-operative Federee, or, for the counties of Chicoutimi, Lake St. John, Roberval and Saguenay, through the Shipshaw Potato Growers' Syndicate.

A maximum amount that will be paid for these grants has been established, and potato growers are urged to get their orders in early, so that they may be handled while funds for payment of the subsidy are still available. Group orders should be sent through your local organization. Orders will be filled in order of date received, and the grant will be paid while funds last.

The purpose of the grant is to help advertise Quebec potatoes, and to compensate seed potato growers, to some extent, for losses suffered during the past season, particularly from bacterial ring rot.



## Dorchester Turkeys Still Lead

The county of Dorchester still holds its place as Quebec's highest turkey and poultry producing county. More turkeys have been sold this fall than last year, and the sales of dressed poultry should be at least equal to last year if not higher.

Although this is being written just before Christmas, the co-operative at St. Anselme, managed by Laurentin Belanger, has already shipped out a million pounds of turkeys and a million and a half pounds of dressed fowl; and 60% of these turkeys and most of the poultry come from Dorchester County farms. When we take into account the birds that are sold through Frampton and Standon, both live and dressed, it is evident that turkey production in Dorchester County will have passed the million pound mark for 1952.

The demand this year has been toward the smaller birds, from 12 to 16 pounds, with less calls for the heavier birds. Quality is being well maintained; 80% of the St. Anselme shipments graded Superior for female carcasses, and from 70% to 75% of the male carcasses made the same grade.

## Quebec Beekeepers Meet

The honey producer's first task is to see that his honey does not contain more than 17.8% of water, unless he wants it to slide into the No. 2 class. His second most important responsibility is to "carry the torch" for honey at every opportunity, so as to increase demand for this delicious food. So said Jules Methot, speaking last month at the annual meeting of the Quebec District Agriculturists' Association held at Quebec, which was attended by a large number of beekeepers.

They discussed methods of honey production, wintering of colonies, orchard spraying and other items of interest to the profession, and heard an address from the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Barre.

Officers elected were David Roy of St. Michel de Bellechasse, president; Marcel Paradis, Beauport, vice-president; Henri Plourde, Levis, secretary. Directors are Paul Aimé Dion and Brother Adolphe of the Brothers of Charity at Everell.

## Holstein Directors Elected

H. L. Guilbert, Vercheres, Tom Cleland, La Tuque and Stanislas Panneton, Three Rivers, were recently elected Quebec directors of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada by mail ballot.

Directors for other provinces elected in the same manner are J. J. Grauer, Vancouver; J. W. Hosford, South Edmonton; R. F. Haighy, Saskatoon; Ted L. Townsend, Winnipeg; Lorne Logan, Wolfville, N.S.; C. B. Sherwood, Norton, N.B.; Colby C. Lewis, Freetown, P.E.I.

Ontario directors will be elected at the annual meeting of the Association on January 28th.

## Is the Dairy Cow Doomed?

"If all the milk produced in Canada was placed in quart containers laid side by side it would stretch for one million miles," stated Mr. T. B. Cooper, Quality Control Manager for the Kraft Foods Ltd., Montreal, at a recent meeting of the Macdonald College branch of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, "and if that doesn't impress you with the size of the dairy industry in this country," he went on, "place the milk in pint containers and see how many miles you'll cover!"

"Yet we find today," he said, "that this large and diversified industry which provides employment for over two million Canadians is threatened by one based upon cheap imported vegetable oils with which our dairy farmers with their high standards of purity and cleanliness cannot hope to compete.

"The threat posed by the importation of these vegetable oils to our Canadian dairy industry is very real. If," Mr. Cooper continued, "the dairy cow becomes a museum piece what will happen to the mixed farming communities of eastern Canada? Without the dairy cow," he stated, "the conservation practices followed by so many of our farmers would not be possible, for the dairy cow represents the basis upon which our better farming methods are founded.



"Margarine has made great inroads into butter consumption in Canada. The use of vegetable oils in ice cream, evaporated milk and table cream has spread rapidly through the United States," Mr. Cooper said, "and it is only a question of time before these practices reach Canada unless we introduce some form of protection for the dairy industry.

"There are three questions," he concluded, "which we must think about. First, do we want to get rid of our high testing, high producing cows and replace them with longer living poorer producing animals? This trend is already evident in the United States. Secondly, if we don't want to get rid of the dairy industry what are we going to do to protect it? Thirdly, let us keep an eye on the long view. The future of Canada is bound up with the policies we adopt today."





## THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes  
and to matters of interest to them*

### All in a Day's Work

by Verna I. Hatch

We hear a great deal about the Course of Study in our schools and whether we are teaching subjects which fit children to meet the requirements of life today. I wonder how many give a thought to the many things which are being taught every day and are never seen on any curriculum. Yet, how much time, in a day already too short to teach the things which are expected of us, is spent on politeness, neatness, good sportsmanship, honesty, thoughtfulness, kindness, and many others I'll mention here.

Where is the boy today who thinks to touch his cap and speak politely to his teacher or to his classmates? Oh yes, he will if reminded but usually he is in too much of a hurry to think on his own.

Children must be taught never to interrupt conversations just because they feel they have something which must have your immediate attention. In this they again need to be reminded. They must learn to consider others.

Even the child who is sent on a message to another classroom has the opportunity to learn that one must never enter a closed room without knocking. Learn, also, that never should one accept favours and help from others without saying "thank you". It is surprising how much of one's time is spent in teaching the basic rules of politeness.

"May I pass the stars today", is so often asked by the same child every day. Whereas the quiet and less forward child, who might love to pass the stars if he were asked, would never get a chance unless children are always being impressed with the fact that they must consider others. During playtime this rule is always being put into practice. It is so easy to choose the anxious and willing child and thus neglect the less forward one.

One of the greatest lessons to be taught is that of being neat and methodical. How much easier work will become if there is a place for everything and everything is kept in its place. Tidiness in the classroom should be reflected by neatness in the work of the children. Each child must be taught to keep his or her own desk in order and the floor beneath it clean. Monitors, who collect books, must be taught to arrange them neatly. Library shelves furnish another means for teaching orderliness. Then there is the unending task of impressing upon pupils the feeling of pride or joy they may experience over a set of work books which have been well-kept and carefully done. It is amazing the kind of work a child will consider good

enough for the teacher who is willing to accept it, compared with what he or she can do when a little effort is shown. It may require a good deal of patience on the part of any teacher to accomplish these results but is it not worth the effort?

How great is the job of teaching boys and girls to look after their own clothing. By doing so we are teaching them to have a feeling of responsibility. This task could be made a little lighter if the parents would clearly mark the clothing of each child. Today the modern cloakrooms with hangers, shelves and special places for rubbers, should make it very easy to acquire habits of neatness. But with all these conveniences how many children must be sent back each day to hang up some article of clothing. How much time is spent searching for a mitten, cap, or rubber which has been lost or carelessly taken home by someone else.

The lunch hour, if properly supervised, affords a wonderful opportunity to teach many worthwhile lessons which are not listed on the Course of Study. First is offering their thanks to God, the checking of table manners, the control of voices, learning to eat foods which are good for them, and lastly leaving the lunch room tidy.

Then comes the supervision of after-school activities. This is not as simple as it sounds. Will one ever convince the persistent child that he cannot always be captain or referee. Others must also have a chance to exercise their ability to become good leaders. It takes patience and helpful guidance to teach children the many rules of good sportsmanship.

After a full day a teacher goes wearily home wondering if it has been worth the effort, or was it just "all in a day's work".



Members of the Howick and Aubrey-Riverfield Branches at the home of Mrs. Robert Templeton, Riverfield.



## Gatineau Institutes Assist County Project

by A. Birdsell Robb



Harold Stevenson, a member of the Breadner Branch, Canadian Legion, stands at the monument in front of the Gatineau Memorial Hospital.

Gatineau Memorial Hospital, now in operation, is fulfilling a cherished dream of Dr. H. J. G. Geggie, physician and friend of many in the Gatineau district for the past 41 years. It was planned as a memorial to those district servicemen who did not return from two World Wars, and for the use of those who did return to live and work in the area, as well as for others who need it, regardless of creed or race.

The founder first publicly mentioned the project at a meeting in Wakefield called to discuss a suitable memorial for servicemen. The Wakefield Women's Institute took up the idea, and immediately began to work, plan and raise money for the project. From this modest beginning has come the present hospital, still with much to be added; but already serving a pressing need in the county.

Formerly a well-known inn — the Manor House — the remodelled building stands in grounds of about two acres overlooking the Gatineau river. The hospital now has 17 adult beds and six bassinets, treatment rooms, much modern hospital equipment; well planned kitchen and heating plant, and a separate nurses' residence.

This was made possible by private subscriptions of \$60,000, mostly in small sums and including many unexpected gifts from former patients now living as far afield as East Africa, France, England, and many points in Canada and the United States. Provincial and Federal grants were also forthcoming in the sums of \$22,500 from the province and \$21,800 from the federal government.

The Wakefield W.I. raised \$1,200 for the cause, other branches contributed generously, and all did hospital sewing and other tasks, including some indoor painting at the hospital.



The Hull Regimental Band arriving for the opening ceremonies of the Gatineau Memorial Hospital. At the right are Dr. H. J. G. Geggie, medical superintendent of the hospital, Rev. O. R. Davison and Rev. L. H. Nesbitt.

When the hospital opened its doors on March 1st, visitors "showered" the hospital with gifts of vegetables, tinned goods, jams, chickens, and sides of beef and pork. District churches donated to the hospital the generous offerings of fruits and vegetables from the Thanksgiving services.

Children in a county school raised money for a Blood Transfusion Unit for Children; an incubator was given by residents of Cascades; an X-ray viewing box was the gift of a well-known company; a special operating-room lamp was donated by the Sisters of the St. Francois d'Assisi Hospital, Quebec; and money donated by many for specific gifts in memory of deceased friends. It would be impossible to list all the freely offered help, without which the hospital would have remained a vision, not a reality.

In the first six months more than 500 patients received treatment; there were 65 "new-borns"; 383 X-ray examinations were made, and 100 chests X-rayed.

The medical superintendent is Dr. H. J. G. Geggie, with his two sons, Dr. J. Hans Geggie and Dr. David Geggie on the medical staff. The hospital matron is Miss Elizabeth Colley, R.N.



Bad roads seldom daunt Institute members. Here is how some of the group at Wyman reached the monthly meeting.



## Another Name for the Honour Roll



Miss Edith M. Edey became a member of the Wyman Women's Institute when that branch was first organized on March 3, 1913, the first branch in Pontiac County.

From the first, Miss Edey took an active part in the work. She was a member of the first committee appointed and since then has

served in many capacities. In the branch she has held the offices of president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, social and publicity convenors.

In the county, she has had her turn at vice-president, but is best known for her work as publicity convenor, to which she gave many years of faithful and very efficient service.

A musician, Miss Edey has used her talents in that way also, and in every way has served so well that when she is absent from a meeting her fellow members feel that there is something missing.

Miss Edey holds a Life Membership, given her by the county in recognition of her long and devoted service "For Home and Country".

## The Month With The W.I.

The month of Christmas meetings. It is hardly necessary even to speak about the theme running through all reports. Everyone knows what Institutes do in this season of good cheer. Both at home and abroad there has been the usual sharing of good things, which always marks the reports at this season of the year.

**Vaudreuil:** No, this is not a mistake. We are taking no chances this month. Vaudreuil's unfortunate position at the end of the alphabet (as far as W.I. counties are concerned) must be the reason their report is sometimes omitted. So here they are leading the way. *Cavagnal* had a film on Christmas carols at the meeting. Candy has been sent to the Veterans' Hospital at Ste. Annes and warm clothing collected and sent to Korean refugees. Five dozen teaspoons were donated to the new Catholic School in Hudson for the kitchen. The Handicraft Group is taking lessons in tatting. *Harwood* — Films on pictures and paintings were shown by Miss R. Ridley of the Adult Education Centre, Macdonald College. Two medals are to be given to students having the highest honours in music, one award to a Dorion pupil and the other to the convent in Vaudreuil.

**Bonaventure:** The big news of the month was a highly successful School Fair. A report of this was prepared for the broadcast and given by the convenor of Agriculture, Mrs. James Mackenzie.

**Compton:** The county W.I. has given a bursary of \$100 to Mr. Hall, East Angus, a student at Bishop's University. This was for 1951. The 1952 bursary goes to Mr. Leland Bennett, Bury, who is taking a course in engineering (no University given). *Bury Juniors* had an exchange of gifts and played Christmas games. They are working on a project in shellwork. Coffee was sold on Armistice Day. *Canterbury* enjoyed the singing of Christmas carols at the meeting. A travelling apron returned with a satisfactory collection. *Cookshire* had a guest speaker, Mrs. E. C. James, who gave a talk on "Prejudice and Understanding". The Rev. Mr. Jones gave another address on the subject, "Art for Pleasure or Hobby". Miss Edwina Morrow was given the \$50 bursary, she is attending Macdonald College, and Miss Lefebvre reported that a donation of \$35 was given the library. This branch catered for a dinner for the Agricultural Society. *East Angus* heard a talk by Mrs. Ronald Elliott describing her trip to England and Scotland. A paper drive was held and \$20 voted for Christmas cheer. *East Clifton* has wired their hall. A guessing contest, featured the program. Donations were \$5 to the United Church, \$4 to the Q.W.I. Service Fund and \$1 for sunshine work. A membership in the C.A.C. was renewed. *Sawyerville* held a card party and a sale netted \$10.

**Chat.-Huntingdon:** *Aubrey-Riverfield* entertained the county president and secretary, Mrs. A. Bernhardt and Mrs. Alex Robb. Three quilts and a box of toys were sent to the Salvation Army and two quilts were completed to be sold for the Barrie Memorial Fund. *Dundee* had a display of hand made Christmas gifts and held a jam and jelly shower for the Huntingdon Hospital. Two papers were read: "The Iron Project of Ungava and Labrador" by Mrs. Vernon Elder, and "My Visit to the Peace Garden This Summer", by Mrs. John Fleming.



Mrs. Cora Austin, an active member of the South Newport W.I. Mrs. Austin, who is over eighty, was photographed when she entertained the co-branch at her home.





The Wyman W.I.

Mrs. Pratt's feed-bag apron won the prize in the apron parade. *Franklin Centre* sent 19 cans of fruit and a bundle of magazines to the Barrie Memorial Hospital. Home made candy was sold and the proceeds, together with toys, were sent to the Children's Memorial Hospital. *Howick* had a demonstration of ideas for Christmas table centres and decorations. *Huntingdon* heard a talk on School Fairs, given by Mr. Hector Beaudin, the local agronomer, and sent \$5 towards the welfare of a Greek child. *Orms town* donated \$100 to the Barrie Memorial Hospital. The sale of a quilt made by the members, brought in \$15, miniatures banks sold, \$9.25 and proceeds of a card party, \$17.25.

**Gaspe:** *L'Anse aux Cousins* voted \$5 to the Q.W.I. Service Fund and had an exchange of gifts. *Wakeham* planned a tea and sale to help the treasury. Fair prizes were distributed. The convenor of Citizenship conducted a quiz on Canada's Prime Ministers. *York* assisted with the community Christmas tree.

**Gatineau:** *Aylmer East* entertained the county semi-annual and catered to a banquet for the Hunting Club. A donation of \$25 was given the Gilbert Richard Fund for hospital care for an incurably ill child. *Eardley* heard a paper on "Some Impressions of the Royal Visit", and another on "Having a Hobby and Making it Pay". A demonstration on shell work was given and a contest on Canadian cities was held. *Kazabazua* is planning a Home Nursing course and a committee was formed to draw up next year's school fair program. A birthday cake featured the tea hour in honour of a visitor, Mrs. Robert Joynt, 83 years young. This was also the 60th anniversary of her wedding and her tales of experiences of pioneer days were much enjoyed. *Rupert* voted \$15 for prizes at the three district schools. Bulbs amounting to \$20 were planted in the cemetery. *Wakefield* had as speaker a representative of the National Institute of the Blind. Miss E. Colley, matron of the local hospital, reported that a wheeled serving tray and two electric clocks had been purchased for the hospital with the proceeds of the garden party sponsored by the W.I., the balance remaining would be used to help replenish linen supplies. Improvements to the hospital grounds were arranged and a large donation of books for the library has been received from an Ottawa lady. *Wright* heard an address

on "Citizenship" given by Mrs. D. Heap. A visitor from Fort William, Ont. brought greetings. Members are offering the hospitality of their homes to A.C.W.W. delegates.

**Jacques Cartier:** *Ste. Annes* had as guest, Miss Bishop, daughter of Mrs. Bishop a member of an English W.I. with whose branch a link has been formed. Members assisted at the local Blood Clinic and four assisted with the tea at the last meeting of the Montreal Council of Women when the Q.W.I. was the hostess society.

**Quebec:** *Valcartier* voted \$20 each to the two schools for annual Christmas treats. A donation of \$50 was sent to a member who has been in hospital since August with polio, and \$20 and a Christmas food parcel was sent to a needy family.

**Richmond:** *Cleveland* held a discussion on "How to Welcome a New-Comer", and had a mystery sale at the meeting. *Denison's Mills* held a masquerade dance, and a white elephant sale. A Christmas tree for 60 children was planned. *Gore* had as guest speaker, Miss Dresser, county president, whose topic was "Changing Times". A food sale netted \$37 and a quilt \$24. Two teachers were given magazine subscriptions for class room use and three former members were also remembered with subscriptions. *Shipton* planned a Christmas party and supper for members. A contest on "How Well do You Know Your Advertisements?" was staged. At *Melbourne Ridge* a supper was held to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the branch and the county president, Miss Dresser, presented life membership certificates to three charter members; Mrs. E. Nelson, Mrs. J. Stalker, and Mrs. L. Driver. A paper on "Citizenship" was read by the convenor at the meeting. *Richmond Hill* has purchased a



The Beebe W.I. presents a merry-go-round, made by the branch members, to the playroom of the Sherbrooke Hospital. Left to right: Jean Dunning, acting director of nursing at the hospital; Viola Moranville, J. Gordon Armitage, president of the hospital; Mrs. N. R. Brevoort, president of the Beebe W.I.; Mrs. E. C. Woodard, secretary, and K. Vaughan, head nurse in the children's ward.

Gerry Lemay Photo, courtesy the Sherbrooke Record.



piano for the hall. A Christmas party was planned and \$7.50 sent to the Q.W.I. Service Fund. *Richmond Y.W.I.* made plans to send boxes to shut-ins and others in the community, also to members' children. *Spooner Pond* heard a paper on "Citizenship", and a report of the meeting of the C.A.C. was given. A contest was held and \$10 voted the Q.W.I. Service Fund. *Windsor Mills* gave \$10 to the Drummondville Girl Guide secretary for registration of a new member. Money was also given towards prizes at the plowing match.

**Rouville:** *Abbotsford* presented a bursary of \$25 to a student at Macdonald College. A beautiful tea-cosy, donated by Miss A. Arnold of England, was sold by Chinese Auction and brought \$3.50.

**Shefford:** *Granby Hill* members brought gifts suitable for a child or elderly person for Christmas distribution. A box was sent an elderly lady in a home and a Christmas party to be held in the school was planned. *South Roxton* planned a turkey dinner for members and their families. A gift for a child was brought in to the meeting and Christmas readings were given. *Warden* sold home made candy and Christmas readings were enjoyed. A cooking contest was held. *Warden Juniors* are to hook a rug as their next project.

**Sherbrooke:** *Ascot* members entertained their husbands at a social meeting. A report on John Fisher's radio broadcast on the W.I. was given. A dance was held and donations of \$10 to the School Skating Rink and \$4 to the School Year Book were given. *Belvidere* sent gifts and flowers to friends and members who were ill. *Brompton Road* held a tea and sent \$2 to a veteran. *Cherry River* reports a satisfactory sum from the sale of quilt tops. A card party was held and plans made to give candy bags to the school children. *Lennoxville* had nine members attending the course in Handicrafts given by Miss Bruneau and assisted at the tea given at the conclusion of the courses. A cheque for \$10 was received from Mrs. Fletcher, who is not a member, for the privilege of attending the course. A Nylon party netted \$5.61. The Home Economics convenor, Mrs. Atto, gave a talk on "Milk, the Juice of Life", and conducted a quiz on soaps. A contest was held on the best article made from a yard of cloth. Mrs. Abercrombie won first prize on an apron, Mrs. Sterling second on pillow-slips, and Mrs. L. J. Smith, third for a blouse. *Milby* held a successful costume dance with prizes. Mrs. W. T. Evans, Q.W.I. Publicity Convenor and a member of this branch, was the speaker on the regular monthly W.I. broadcast. Donations were \$15 to the Q.W.I. Service Fund, \$5 to the Red Feather Campaign and vegetables to the Salvation Army. *Orford* had as speaker, Mrs. Nelson Lothrop, president of the Sherbrooke Hospital Alumni who gave a talk on "The Sherbrooke Hospital School of Nursing". Several members donated articles to the V.O.N. annual Thrift Sale and a Christmas parcel was sent to Mrs. Davis, an honorary member in England.

**Stanstead:** *Ayer's Cliff* heard a talk on "United Nations House", by a member who visited there recently. An article, "The Backward Child", was read and excerpts from a letter from Dr. Willis on Protestant Education in that County. A remunerative paper drive was reported and \$3 voted for Memorial Sunday. *Beebe* entertained county members at the semi-annual, over 50 being present to hear a talk on "Citizenship" given by Mr. Roberge, M.P. *Hatley* had as guest speaker, Mrs. G. E. LeBaron, Q.W.I. president, who spoke on "Civil Defence". This branch has decided to sponsor a Girl Guide Company. *Minton* welcomed a new member and sent a gift to a shut-in. *North Hatley* reports that a Greek boy, seven years of age, has been assigned to this branch for sponsorship and \$25 was given towards his support. The U.N. flag has been completed and was on display and Christmas cards to aid U.N.I.C.E.F. were purchased. Assistance is to be given with the community Christmas tree and \$16 was voted the Q.W.I. Service Fund. *Way's Mills* entertained husbands and families of members to a chicken pie supper and an auction afterward. A weaving class under Miss Bruneau was held.

## A Friendly Custom

Contact between the Women's Institute and Home Demonstration groups from "across the line" has long been a friendly custom in many sections of this province that border on the United States. Now, from British Columbia, comes a story of the start of a similar practice. The North and South Fraser District Boards of the W.I. joined the Home Demonstration groups of Whatcom County, Washington, for the second time, at a picnic held at the lovely spot shown in the picture, where this Peace Arch is erected at Blaine on the American side and White Rock on the Canadian.



The Peace Arch situated on the border at Blaine, Washington, and White Rock, British Columbia.

The first year the picnic was held on the American side, this year on the Canadian. The provincial president, Mrs. A. A. Shaw, Vancouver, writing about this friendly gathering says, "We now plan to make this an annual event", and adds, "Mrs. Gummow, (the B.C. Superintendent) and myself have visited the American groups several times. Interest is growing in the ACWW and so here's hoping they will join our great organization and thus become one of us."



## Solving the Fertilizer Formula Puzzle

Have you ever been puzzled by the formula figures — such as 5-10-10 — printed on a bag of fertilizer? These are there for your protection and simply indicate the proportionate quantities of the main plant foods contained in the fertilizers.

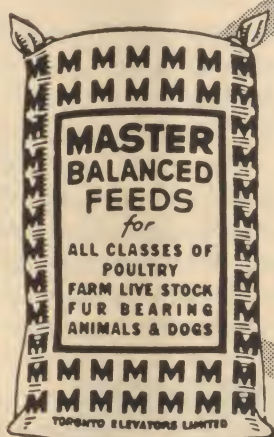
These figures are the key to the contents of the bag and it is well to remember that the first figure of the formula always stands for nitrogen, the second always stands for phosphoric acid, and the last, always for potash. The actual method of getting these essential plant foods into the fertilizer bag may vary with different formulas, but the final result is always the same. Farmers may rest assured that the plant foods will always be there in the proportionate quantities stated in the formula figures on the bag.

But these plant foods — nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash — must be incorporated in the fertilizer so they can be applied to the soil evenly over large areas. Since this could not be done in their absolutely pure state, a certain amount of bulk is required, or the fertilizer could not be spread around. How is this done?

In a 100-pound bag of 5-10-10 mixed fertilizer, for instance, there are usually 25 pounds of nitrogen chemicals, such as sulphate of ammonia, to supply the five percent of nitrogen. There are 50 pounds of superphosphate to supply the ten percent of phosphoric acid, and 17 pounds of muriate of potash to supply the ten percent of potash. This adds up to 92 pounds. The remaining 8 pounds is generally dolomitic limestone, which contains some calcium and magnesium — both good for the soil.

Different crops and different soils require different formulas; so, in order to get the greatest value from fertilizers applied, the right fertilizer for the particular soil and crop should be selected. Here is an instance where the agricultural representative can help, so it is wise to consult him if you are not sure of the formula to use.

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## The Garden

There's always the garden to dream about  
On long, dark wintry nights,  
Turning thoughts from winter  
To the far-away delights  
Of thrusting tip and swelling bud  
And blossom on the tree;  
Stranger than a fairy tale —  
A fireside fantasy.

There's always the garden to plan  
again —

Fresh vistas to unfold;  
Rainbow borders rose and blue,  
vermillion and gold;  
Flowerscapes to be painted  
On the canvas of the mind,  
And changed into a living  
Picture when the weather's kind

There's always the garden to keep you  
young  
When skies are bleak and cold.

EVERYTHING  
your cows need for  
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# "MIRACLE"

## DAIRY FEEDS

142-52

Folks who love a garden  
Are a long time getting old.  
Never their hearts grow weary,  
Weaving gay new schemes,  
Reaching out into the future,  
Dreaming April dreams.

—Patience Strong.



## Strippings

by Gordon W. Geddes

Just now they seem to be talking about shaking up the federal cabinet. While they are at it they should put Mr. Gardiner in as defence minister. The all-out war he is waging against the eastern farmers would bring the Communists to terms in short order. Once in that post, he could go down and give Ike a plan for ending the Korean war that would make the hardened warrior shiver. And we don't need him for Minister of Agriculture any more. A short time ago a report appeared that farmers might expect another good year in 1953 such as they had in 1952 though farm income might not be quite as high in '53. The eastern farmer might well ask, what income?

We have been getting four to nine cents a pound less for butterfat than last year. In spite of this our co-op creamery had a deficit for the year of \$1700 compared to a surplus of \$1100 last year. Last year's low for pork was higher than this year's high on net returns from hogs sent to Montreal. The average last year was about ten cents per pound higher than this year on what we shipped. But Gardiner isn't satisfied yet. He is determined to lower the support price on pork another three cents. Of course, it wouldn't be fair to put all the blame for the U.S. embargo which helped to cause all this on him. But when that embargo created an emergency he might have asked for more emergency measures to meet it. Would not the circumstances have justified an embargo on vegetable oils to help dispose of the surplus created in Canada? Instead consumers with a high income benefitted by lower prices (though perhaps not as much lower as they should have been) while still jacking up the prices farmers had to pay.

In view of the record crops in the west, it seems as if we had a right to look for lower feed prices. In fact, local dealers did say not to buy very much feed grain. Yet it has been

going up. For one ingredient in our dairy ration we paid a dollar more a hundred than last year. For another we paid eighty cents more. Of course that was accomplished by buying early last year but this year they were never down to those levels. And so the sows keep going to the packers and the little pigs with them. It probably means an eventual shortage of pork and very high prices. But it also means that the farmers are without income in the meantime and will not profit from those high prices because they have no hogs to sell. Many farmers can remember previous occasions when the government tried to discourage hog production even when they had a contract for more pork than we produced. That policy helped to put us more at the mercy of the embargo than we might otherwise have been.

But the farmers have to carry on just the same so we jacked up the old shed and put some posts under it. They were like the support prices, not as high as they should have been, but they may keep the old thing from going any lower for there is no money for a new one. We would have liked a more accessible place for the tractor this winter but decided that repairs would be the limit. So on December first Alex and I headed for the bush to start cutting wood. For a few days conditions were ideal for the job and we needed ideal conditions as we were still cutting down stuff left by the lumbermen or blown down since their operations. There is considerable pulpwood in it but once again the price is down and the demand is poor. But we shall have to cut it to get the roads open for the hardwood we need for the house. Perhaps the market will improve if the low price discourages cutting. Anyway the stuff will not be eating high-priced grain while it is waiting.

Before we got far the weather changed to frequent snow storms with such mild weather that it was worse than rain in the woods or sometimes it was rain so we found some jobs

under cover that had been waiting for some time. Then the real snow storm hit and cut off our power and blocked our road. The electricians even had to use a tractor to locate the trouble. But our neighbour, who has a contract to open the road, was even worse off for he couldn't use his tractor for it. He is trying out a Sno-Blo but went to considerable trouble to mount it in the front only to find that his driving arrangement for the blower wasn't strong enough. So he has been cleaning it out with a road-grader behind the tractor.

For the first Fourth Night in F.F. the Libbytown Forum planned a film showing with the co-operation of a local Ferguson agent. Of course there was some advertising to it but there were some interesting ideas about grassland farming as well as the machines which make it easy.

Alex was quite determined to have some rabbit stew out of the rabbits which make so many tracks in our woodlot. First he tried to shoot them but the very conditions which make them plentiful, make them hard to harvest for the brush is so thick you can't see far enough ahead to shoot them. Then he tried some snares only to lose some of them without any stew. So I guess the rabbits will have to keep on multiplying till they get so plentiful they can't hide.

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## Veterinary Topics

by D. G. Dale, D.V.M.

The unseasonable weather we have had recently has made this winter a bad one in so far as stabled animals are concerned. Outbreaks of scours in cattle have been very common this year. The term "scours" or "diarrhoea" can be very misleading as the appearance of loose evacuations in animals is really just a symptom of a disease process attacking the intestinal tract. There can, of course, be many causes that may be responsible for the observed symptoms. As a general rule, if the entire herd or flock is affected with diarrhoea, the cause will prove to be either dietary, e.g., spoiled feed, or intestinal infection. Where the occurrence of intestinal upsets are confined to one farm in an area veterinarians frequently are inclined to blame the feed and to advise changes in the diet or methods of husbandry. However, in instances where several farms in an area are involved in outbreaks of diarrhoea, the most logical conclusion is that an infectious agent is responsible.

There are several infections of cattle that can and do result in scouring, namely, Johne's disease, coccidiosis, shipping fever, winter dysentery and in some areas, stomach worm disease. In this area, during the winter time, winter dysentery is probably the most common type of infectious diarrhoea seen. Up until about twenty years ago winter dysentery was thought to be due to faulty feeding practices. It has since been proven to be due to a bacterial organism called *Vibrio jejuni*. The methods by which the infectious agent is introduced into a herd often remains a mystery. However, it is known that the organism can remain alive in feces that contaminate visitor's clothing and footwear. Most cases of winter dysentery occur between December and March which would lead to the conclusion that the mere presence of the organism is not entirely responsible for the disease. Other factors such as bad

weather, etc., probably must act first to lessen the animals resistance to infection.

In the usual outbreak of this disease the onset is sudden, one or two animals will be observed to have diarrhoea one day and perhaps fifty to seventy-five percent of the herd will be affected within two or three days. Most cases are mild, the watery feces gradually becoming more solid within three days. Occasionally in severe outbreaks the liquid feces will gradually become very dark due to the presence of blood in the bowel discharges.

The most serious aspect of winter dysentery is the dollar and cents loss sustained by the farmer due to loss of milk production. The appetite of the affected animal is often reduced and milk production drops accordingly. In a recent outbreak we observed, one cow dropped from 35 lbs. of milk down to 5 lbs. within 3 days.

Though the symptoms during a severe attack appear very alarming, most cases recover quite rapidly. In treating the condition most veterinarians rely on the older intestinal antiseptics rather than subject their

clients to the greatly increased costs of the newer antibiotics and intestinal sulfonamides. In most cases this routine treatment plus additional medicines as required will safely carry a herd through an outbreak with no mortality. Prevention of this condition is very difficult to achieve. Usually it is impossible to trace the origin of the infection. One or two rather obvious precautions can be offered.

1. Quarantine all animals returning from late fall shows for at least 2 weeks before allowing them to mix the home herd.
2. The same step should be followed with newly purchased animals.
3. Don't invite trouble by visiting the farm of a neighbour to observe the scouring condition he reports in his animals. If you do you will probably be seeing plenty of it in your own herd before long.

## Prolific Aphid

If she and her offspring could be kept alive, one female cabbage aphid could produce 1,560,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 descendants in a single year.

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## THE COLLEGE PAGE

### The Macdonald Clam

*Notes and News of Staff Members and Former Students*

## Is There A Difference?

Our readers do not need to be told that a controversy is raging across Canada as to the relative value of fat from milk and fat from other sources. Spokesmen for the groups representing one or the other interest confidently proclaim their product to be the better one. Which group is right? Scientists at Macdonald College are going to try to find out.

Of all the foods used in this country milk and its by-products have been the most widely publicized. In one of the most recent books on nutrition, the chapter dealing with milk begins, "Milk is the most important of all foods. It is indispensable to the infant; it is essential to the proper development of the young child and it should form, invariably, a major article of the diet for the older child. For the adult, too, it is always a valuable and at times a well-nigh essential adjunct to the diet."

Milk is a mixture of many nutrients; but oddly enough, when the properties of milk are discussed, little attention, if any, is usually paid to the fat. Butterfat seems to be taken for granted as a source of energy which can be replaced without damage by some other form of edible fat.

The chemical make-up of butterfat is not the same as that of other food fats. It has a very high content of certain fatty acids which give definite chemical and physi-

cal properties to products made from it. But apparently nobody has ever carried out experiments to determine whether or not butterfat has any specific and unique nutritional properties.

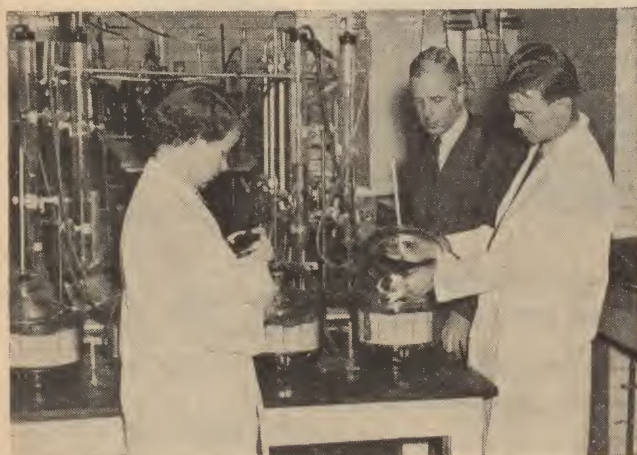
The lack of this knowledge wasn't important in the days when butter had no serious competition. But now, with so many dairy substitutes on the market, consumers are asking whether or not milk fat has any special advantage over other fats. Naturally, dairymen are interested in the answer, too.

There is plenty of information about the value of the protein and mineral portions of milk—the solids other than fat. But the fat portion of milk has been more or less taken for granted as a pleasing and highly acceptable food. Leaders in the dairy industry have come to the conclusion that now is the time to fill in this gap in our knowledge, and have determined that no time must be lost in discovering whether or not butterfat has any special virtues, or limitations, which might determine its proper place in the diet.

The organizations sponsoring the research are the National Dairy Council, the Dairy Farmers of Canada, the Associated Milk Foundation and the Canadian Dairy Industry Suppliers Association, all of whom are represented by the Dairy Advisory co-ordinating Committee. This is the first time in history that the various branches of the dairy industry have united to finance fundamental research, and marks an historical step in the progress of Canada's third largest industry.

To do the job they picked the Nutrition Department at Macdonald College, and work has already started. The first thing that will be done will be to review all the published literature that has any bearing on fat utilization, the comparative compositions of the various edible fats, and the specific roles of fat in nutrition. This review of what has been done by other workers is in itself a formidable task, and it is expected that it will be a year at least before it is finished.

Next will come the experimental work; actual feeding trials to answer specific questions. No detailed plans for this part of the work can be drawn up yet, but it will



The research team: Florence Farmer, Prof. Crampton, R. K. Shaw.



certainly include trials to compare the feeding value of fats from various sources (milk fat from cows, goats, and, if possible, from some carnivorous mammal) and fat from a variety of vegetable sources (oil-bearing seeds and grains). Other trials will be suggested by conclusions found in the literature, and by independent thinking by those working on the project.

It is a big task, but an important one, for from it will come the answer to the question—"Just how good is butterfat?"

## House Plants Need Plenty of Humidity



High house temperatures, low humidity and poor light all mean special care is needed if you expect your house plants to grow and bloom this winter.

Dry, hot air is a shock to plants which have been living outside this summer. To get more moisture into the air near your plants, fill a waterproof tray partly full with coarse gravel. Then add water until it half-covers the gravel, and set your plants on top of the gravel. Don't set your plants in water, since this encourages root and crown rot, root drowning, and general lack of plant vigor.

Don't try to increase humidity by overwatering, then placing plants in a warm room. This will upset your plants' balance of absorbing, using and giving off water.

Try to keep plants in room with low temperature, such as bedrooms. Warm temperatures—above 60 degrees—often dry out plants, causing poor growth and poor blooms.

You can help flowering plants—such as geraniums, begonias and gloxinia—bloom by placing them near south or west windows so they will get plenty of direct light.

## Youth Takes the Initiative

There have been growing misgivings among statisticians that the average Canadian farmer is getting too old, the assumption being that youth is fleeing the farm for better opportunities in urban centres.

Recent events, however, have shown that farm life can hold a rosy future for the rural youngster. There is the case of 19-year-old Ronald Leonhardt of Drumheller, Alta. Last April he planted three acres of Marquis wheat on his father's farm and harvested 50 bushels per acre in the fall. He entered a sampling at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto—and won the world's wheat championship.

Last year another Alberta youth—Howard Roepel—was world's wheat king and in 1950 the crown was captured by 13-year-old Ricky Sharp of the same province. At the Royal this year a youngster from Ridgetown, Ont.—Daniel Clunis—was awarded the world's championship in soybeans.

The fact that these boys nosed out veteran growers for the world's highest honors indicates there are rich opportunities for youth on the farm. This was realized, of course, by the early sponsors of the growing junior farmer movement—the 4-H Club. This organization was formed to give farm youth (boys and girls) a better understanding of farming as a way of life and farming as a business. Today there are some 60,000 young farmers belonging to 4-H Clubs across Canada. Among these are young Leonhardt, Roepel and Sharp.

An organization which can help mould three successive world wheat kings certainly merits the praise of every Canadian.

## Saving Lives



Macdonald College, the town of Ste. Anne de Bellevue, and the Military Hospital co-operated with the Red Cross last month at a mammoth blood donor clinic held on three successive days. Our photograph shows the scene in the Men's Gymnasium at the College where almost three hundred students and staff members donated blood for the Red Cross supplies.





THE MACDONALD LASSIE